

February 5, 2013

Statement Of Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield On

HB 5767(RAISED) An Act Concerning Synchronizing Prescription Refills

Good afternoon Senator Ayala, Representative Serra and members of the Aging Committee, my name is Christine Cappiello and I am the Director of Government Relations for Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Connecticut. I am on testifying on HB 5767(Raised) An Act Concerning Synchronizing Prescription Refills.

While the legislation is intended to be consumer friendly and help consumers to assist with multiple prescriptions but this legislation, while well-intended, will have some unintended consequences that I want to point out for the committee members. There are too many unknowns that cannot be addressed in the legislation for instance, what if the patient uses multiple pharmacies? What if the number of refills is not the same for all drugs? What if a member can't afford to pay for all of their meds at one time? And how would synchronization of prescriptions occur if they are started at different times or the dosage changes? These are some of the questions that are real-life situations every day that we experience as a health plan that provides prescription drug coverage.

We hope that the Committee takes into consideration these unintended consequences on not only the insurers but more importantly the members and their providers as you deliberate this legislation. Thank you for your time and attention.